

***California
Commission on Teacher Credentialing***

***Meeting of
May 7-8, 2003***

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: EXEC - 3

COMMITTEE: Executive Committee

TITLE: Terms of Committee on Accreditation Members

 X Action

 Information

 Report

Strategic Plan Goal(s):

Goal 1: Promote educational excellence through the preparation and certification of professional educators

- Sustain high quality standards for the preparation of professional educators
- Assess and monitor the efficacy of the Accreditation System, Examination System and State and Federal Funded Programs

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Terms of Committee on Accreditation Members

Professional Services Division

May 7-8, 2003

Executive Summary

This agenda report discusses the need to address the expiration of terms for six members of the Committee on Accreditation and provides a recommended plan to continue the Committee during the present reevaluation of the Commission's accreditation policies.

Policy Issues to be Addressed

Should the Commission address the expiration of terms for six members of the Committee on Accreditation and continue the Committee during the Commission's present reevaluation of the accreditation policies?

Fiscal Impact Analysis

The expenses of the accreditation system are supported by the base budget of the Commission.

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Commission extend the terms of all current Committee on Accreditation members for two years.

Terms of Committee on Accreditation Members

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Background

In December 2002, the California Commission On Teacher Credentialing (CCTC) took action to focus its accreditation activities for the remainder of 2002-2003 and all of 2003-2004 on initial program accreditation activities to implement fully the SB 2042 standards. All institutions/programs formerly scheduled for site visits in those time periods were delayed for two years, with the exception that all scheduled NCATE/CCTC merged visits would be held according to schedule. Because of that decision, it seemed prudent to not move forward with the election process for Committee on Accreditation (COA) members in 2003. It now is appropriate to make decisions about COA elections previously scheduled for 2003 and 2004.

The terms of six members of the Committee on Accreditation end on June 30, 2003. The terms of the other six COA members end on June 30, 2004. The Commission's *Accreditation Framework* outlines the process for selecting nominees for Commission appointment to the COA. The implementation of that process would require the allocation of funds to support the seeking and screening of nominations and the subsequent interviews with the Commission before appointment of new members by the Commission.

Since the Commission has delayed most accreditation site visits for the remainder of this fiscal year (02-03) and for all of next fiscal year (03-04), the number of COA meetings needed has been reduced. In this same period, the Commission will also be reviewing the evaluation of the implementation of the *Accreditation Framework* and the Committee on Accreditation will be a participant in that review.

Given these circumstances, it will be necessary to maintain the full membership of the Committee on Accreditation. The Commission could accomplish that by asking all current COA members to extend their terms for two years. In addition to saving the cost of COA nominations and elections for two years, this would allow the current members of the COA (all of whom have served for at least two years) to be a part of discussions about the future of accreditation. The COA could advise the Commission on accreditation issues as required under the *Framework*, as well as continue its ongoing work. Further, if the Commission decides to change the accreditation decision-making process in the future, the current members of the COA would be able to assist in the transition process to a revised system.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Commission extend the terms of all current Committee on Accreditation members for two years.

